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Letter dated 27 March 2001 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone addressed to the President of the Security Council

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone, I have the honour to attach herewith, for your information, the copy of a letter dated 26 February 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Guinea to the United Nations (see annex).

I would appreciate it if the text of the present letter and its annex could be brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Anwarul Karim **Chowdhury**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution
1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone

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Annex

Letter dated 26 February 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Guinea to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone

In the context of the implementation of the embargo imposed by the Security Council in its resolution 1306 (2000) of 5 July 2000, a United Nations mission of experts visited Guinea from 1 to 3 October 2000 to gather information on the diamond-export circuit and hold discussions with the authorities concerned.

Following the visit, the Government of Guinea issued the following communiqué:

"1. As soon as it was informed of the United Nations resolution and of the initiatives taken by the diamond professionals, the Government immediately took a stand of solidarity and became involved in the struggle against the marketing of conflict diamonds to finance rebellions in Africa.

"2. Guinea has associated itself with the Kimberley process by participating in expert meetings in London in July 2000 and in Windhoek in August 2000. Guinea also participated in the conference attended by ministers of producer countries and diamond professionals in Pretoria, South Africa, from 19 to 21 September 2000, and in the special meeting held in London on 6 and 7 October 2000.

"The Government has already decided to implement the following internal measures:

- To prohibit the marketing of any diamond originating in rebel-controlled areas of Africa;
- To establish a certificate of origin regime for diamonds regularly exported in accordance with existing procedures and regulations;
- To strengthen production and marketing controls for diamonds from the country's mining operations.

"There are severe penalties for any violation of these new provisions."

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present communiqué brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a Council document of the Council.

(*Signed*) François L. **Fall**
Ambassador